



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

21<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents, Pupils, Staff, Governors and Friends of the School,

We loved finishing this half term by being all together for a harvest sharing assembly this morning. It was delightful hearing songs and poems and seeing artwork from the classes.

**Harvest Donations** – Thank you for your generous donations of food. We collected many bags and boxes for the Food Bank to support families in need.

**Important Reminder about Inset Days and Half Term Holiday** – School is closed tomorrow Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November for Inset/staff training. The week Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October is the half term holiday, so children should return to school on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

**Starting School in Reception in September 2022** – Parents/Carers of children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2028 (Inclusive) need to apply for a school place for September 2022. If this applies to you, please go to <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/reception-applications> to make an application. We have a lovely flip book presentation about our Foundation Stage on the school website and we are also doing face to face tours of the school for prospective parents. Do spread the word and let friends, neighbours and other family members know if they have children who fall into this age bracket. The window for making on-line applications opens on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 and closes on January 15<sup>th</sup> 2022.

**Year 6 Children Transferring to Secondary School in September 2022** – The Year 6 to Year 7 application process is open for parents to complete applications online at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions).

**The deadline for receipt of completed applications is 31st October 2021, which is the end of next week.**

**Cake Sale Thank You** – Thanks to everyone who baked, helped set up and sell cakes and cookies on Friday last week. A magnificent £170 was raised for the School Association funds.

**School Lunches New Menu** – After half term there will be a **new menu in place**, and we will be back to all children eating in the hall (staggered times for each of Robins, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2). The children will be using plates and bowls and metal cutlery again, rather than eating from disposable boxes! Over the holiday, please check out the new menus in ParentPay and discuss choices with your children. Please also make sure that there is credit in ParentPay ready for meals taken when we return to school after half term. It is very helpful if you have pre-booked.

**Plea for Dressing Up Clothes** – If you have any unwanted or grown out of costumes and dressing up clothes suitable for Infant sized children (4 – 7 years) we'd love to have them for Finch Class. We are looking for anything other than princess dresses which we already have plenty of! Thank you.

**Primary Maths Challenge Competition** – Eight children from Years 5 and 6 represented this school at Oxford Spires Academy on Wednesday for a really difficult maths challenge, competing in teams of four against teams from other primary schools. We are thrilled and so proud to announce that our teams came second and third which is an amazing achievement for our tiny school competing against lots of other, bigger schools.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

## **News from Classes**

**Robins and Ducklings** – The Robins have had a great first term and have all been working so hard! This week we have continued using ‘The Gruffalo’ story to create story maps and sequence the order of the story. We have continued our focus on comparing groups of 1, 2 and 3 objects, and identifying groups of objects that are the same. We discussed healthy and unhealthy food choices and why a healthy diet is important. We made our own lunchbox using our cutting skills again. Some of the lunchboxes were healthier than others! Ducklings have been enjoying the wooden railway and a train book this week.

**Finches** – This week we have enjoyed learning about the Rio de Janeiro Carnival. We loved listening to Samba music and making sparkly carnival masks. In English we learnt the Brazilian folktale ‘Where the Night Came From’ and then wrote a thought bubble from the story. In maths we have practised number bonds to 10 and finding 1 more and 1 less than a number.

**Owls** – This week we have been writing up our story ‘How Raven Brought Fire to Earth’. We have done maths assessments and gone over tricky bits of maths such as Carroll diagrams. We practised our harvest songs with Finch class. We will bring our beautiful harvest pictures home at half term. Happy Holidays!

**Doves** – We have worked very hard on maths and writing assessments. We have created mosaic Roman vase pictures and found out all about Roman slavery. We had a wonderful virtual visit to the Ashmolean Museum. We saw artefacts and guessed what they were. We made Roman bulla necklaces. Dove class should be very proud of their hard work and progress this half term. There won’t be homework over half term but some of the class are keen to write their own diaries.

**Woodpeckers** – We have been creating our whole class poem based on our Story Museum workshop, ready for some of us to recite at the Museum on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. We have also made beautiful watercolour paintings of a harvest scene. In history we have found Viking place names on maps of England, showing where there were Viking settlements.

**Kingfishers** – We’ve enjoyed creating a class poem of our collective hopes and dreams which will be performed by some of the Kingfishers at The Story Museum on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. In maths we have been checking over our next steps and focussing on problem solving challenges. We also devised a way of testing materials for soundproofing in the ‘snoring challenge’ in science. We hope you enjoyed our poetry performance, with extra body percussion and actions, at the harvest assembly.

**Morning Club and After School Club Bills for October** – These will be put in ParentPay over the half term holiday and paper copies will be sent home when we return to school on 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

**We hope everyone has a happy, safe and healthy half term break. See you all again on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Charlotte Haynes and The New Hinksey Team.**

**Art Club - City of Oxford College** is starting a new series of **Junior Saturday Art Club** on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November in their professionally equipped creative workshops. Cost £70 for five weeks with all materials provided.

Junior Saturday Art Club is a five-week, creative Saturday course for 8–11 year olds, running from 10am–noon.

**To enroll:** <https://adult.activatelearning.ac.uk/find-a-course/detail/junior-saturday-art-club-for-8-11-year-olds-4/>

**Night of the Living Saints** – 31 October 5-7pm at St John’s Church. On All Hallows’ Eve come and have fun learning about some of the Church’s most exciting Saints! Free cakes, sweets and hot chocolate. For information or to register attendance please call 07865 168266.

## **AMAL MEETS ALICE, 26 OCTOBER, 13:00-15:00 – FREE OUTDOOR EVENT IN OXFORD CITY CENTRE**

Little Amal is a young refugee girl in giant puppet form. Representing all displaced children, Little Amal is travelling over 8,000km across Europe from the Syria-Turkey border to Manchester as part of *The Walk*. On Tuesday 26 October, she’ll arrive in Oxford where she’ll be greeted by Alice in Wonderland, in the form of The Story Museum’s own giant puppet, in a procession through the city centre featuring puppetry, music and dance.

Come and join the story of Amal Meets Alice on a journey of hope through the city. We suggest joining the procession at c13:45 at Broad Street Event Space or at c14:30 at Christ Church Meadows. You can find out more and view/download an event guide and map via The Story Museum’s website: <https://www.storymuseum.org.uk/amal>

**Song for Bertie** - Is your child upset about the proposed development at Bertie Park? Local folk legend Peggy Seeger is very kindly offering to collaborate with children on a song about the park. The song writing session will take place on Saturday 30 October at 3pm. Get in touch with April ([april.elizabeth.jones@gmail.com](mailto:april.elizabeth.jones@gmail.com)) if you're interested, for venue details.